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preserving the integrity of the electoral process in state elections by ensuring that these elections are free from corruption and the appearance of corruption, and that this end can only be achieved if reasonable limits are placed on the amount of campaign contributions from certain sources, and the sources of funding and the use of that funding in campaigns are fully disclosed. That...those are the legislative findings. That is the preamble to the act. The purpose of this amendment is to engage us in a discussion as to whether we meant what we found and what we said, and whether we want to continue. Do we want to free ourselves from the appearance from corruption? I didn't know we had it. Particularly, do we want to do it with unrealistic limitations upon us? Why do we have a compelling state interest in regulating campaigns for the Legislature but not for Governor, not for Regents, for Regents but not Attorney General, for Public Service Commission but not the State Treasurer? This amendment would eliminate those distinctions. If this is where we want to be, if this is what we want to have, then let's do it right. Let's don't be manipulating back and forth to accommodate the only fund we've got to match the monies out of because we don't have the courage to do the public funding that we say is so necessary to make this process work. The problem is we do not have the money in the fund and it doesn't take much to figure out that we won't be making an appropriation to the fund anytime soon. The more we try to fix this act the more of a contraption it becomes. If we're going to fix it, then we need to fund it. If not, then we need to repeal it, or just leave it broken where it's not really having any impact. And, as I stated in the beginning, repeal and/or leaving status quo, broken, are the two objectives of my purpose here. I urge the adoption of AM1127 if you want to make this act cover all officeholders. Thank you.

SENATOR DIERKS PRESIDING

SENATOR DIERKS: Thank you, Senator Brashear. Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, I would like to ask Senator Brashear a question.

SENATOR DIERKS: Senator Brashear.